

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7826**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 493

**NOTE PREPARED:** Apr 11, 2005

**BILL AMENDED:** Apr 7, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Geographic Information Systems.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Ford

**FIRST SPONSOR:** Rep. Ruppel

**BILL STATUS:** As Passed House

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
X DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) The bill establishes the Office of Geographic Information as part of the Department of Homeland Security to provide for the development and implementation of a geographic information system (GIS). It requires the Indiana Geographic Information Council, Inc., to provide policy support and strategic direction to the Office. The bill also establishes the GIS Development and Maintenance Fund, and it appropriates any money in the fund.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2005.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** (Revised) *Office of Geographic Information:* The bill establishes the Office of Geographic Information with the executive director of the Office appointed by the Governor. The executive director would develop a statewide strategy for use of geographic information systems (GIS) by state agencies. The Office would maintain information on GIS systems and grants, provide high-level advice and assistance to state and local government, advise on data sensitivity issues, publish a statewide GIS plan, and represent Indiana's interests with federal agencies. Additionally, the Office would coordinate efforts among state universities and other public and private higher education institutions concerning GIS education. Under the bill, the State Library would have custody of all state GIS detail.

*Indiana Geographic Information Council, Inc.:* The Indiana Geographic Information Council, Inc., is a nonprofit, private entity. Under the bill, its board of directors would provide policy support and strategic direction to the Office of Geographic Information. The Office would provide staff and other administrative support for the board of directors of the Indiana Geographic Information Council, Inc.

The funds and resources required for the Office could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: (1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; (2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; (3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; (4) funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) new appropriations. Ultimately, the source of funds and resources required to satisfy the requirements of this bill will depend upon legislative and administrative actions.

*GIS Development and Maintenance Fund:* The Fund would be used to provide GIS grants and to pay the expenses of the Office. The funding source would be appropriations by the General Assembly and gifts or grants received. The Fund would not revert to the state General Fund at the end of the fiscal year.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** State Library, Department of Homeland Security.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:**

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